

Chicago File No. 100-4092

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE NEW YORK FIELD DIVISION:

\* At New York City, New York, will consider the feasibility of obtaining background information of the subject from the YWCA in New York, where according to the records of the former District Attorney [redacted] she was a teacher at one time.

THE SPRINGFIELD FIELD DIVISION:

At East St. Louis, Illinois, will ascertain identity of person residing at [redacted] East St. Louis, telephone [redacted]

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION:

At Chicago, Illinois, will obtain a specimen of subject's handwriting.

Will secure an analysis of subject's bank account at the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank of America, which account is maintained in the name of WILLIAM L. PATTERSON and LOUISE THOMPSON.

Will follow subject's activities in the Chicago Field Division as made available through Confidential Informants [redacted] and [redacted]

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- P E N D I N G -

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-21-08 BY 2003-38 Subject

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211 AUG 22 1963

100-07934-30

ENCLOSURE



Louise Thompson Patterson nee  
Louise Thompson

100-4092

100-39-63

Photo Taken 1944.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/2000 BY 37163 ECU/MLW

A 100-4092-102

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, Chicago

ATTENTION: FBI Laboratory

SUBJECT: LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: March 15, 1945

68118

D33792

Enclosed are two photostatic copies of a check dated February 5, 1945, in Subject's handwriting, which are being submitted to the Bureau pursuant to Bureau Bulletin #11, dated February 9, 1944.

Enc. (2)

RJS:LM  
100-4092

NO ANS. NEC. <sup>part of one</sup>  
 SPEC. RETAINED IN LAB  
 H.D.MFK  
 3-21-45

76 MAR 28 1945

51

RECORDED 100-3965  
 INDEXED 100-3965  
 MARCH 22 1945

SEARCHED  
SERIALIZED

CHICAGO, ILL.

Feb 5 1945 No. 1

2-340 AMALGAMATED TRUST & SAVINGS BANK 2-340  
III SOUTH DEARBORN

PAY TO THE  
ORDER OF

Cash

\$ 40 00

Forty and no/100

DOLLARS

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

ACCOUNT NO.

1453

Lester Thompson Attorney

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/10/00 BY 39163810/JLW

Enclosure to Bureau  
RE: LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON  
IS - C

photostatic copies of checks

(2)

Off to file 100-39  
⑦ Exp 1007 3/26/45  
100-407934-31  
~~100-39-65~~  
ENCLOSURE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 11/2/08 BY SP/MSB/AM/SP

ENCLOSURE

100-407934-31

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT Chicago, Illinois

10  
FILE NO. 100-3931

REPORT MADE AT <b>Springfield, Illinois</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3-22-45</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2-22, 24, 26; 3-13-45</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>[Redacted]</b>										
TITLE <b>MRS. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, WAS</b>		CHARACTER OF CASE <b>INTERNAL SECURITY - C</b>											
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b> ARDIS HOLMES, colored, resides at 1737-A Broadway, East St. Louis, Illinois, and is subscriber to Telephone East 7281-J. He is a freight trucker in a warehouse and is not known to have engaged in any radical activities.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">- R U [Redacted]</p> <p>Reference: Report of Special Agent [Redacted] Chicago, Illinois, January 31, 1945.</p> <p>Details: At East St. Louis, Illinois. Informant [Redacted] advised that Telephone East 7281-J is listed to ARDIS HOLMES, 1737-A Broadway. He was unable to furnish further information concerning HOLMES.</p> <p>The records of Selective Service Board #1, Murphy Building, reflect that Subject is a freight trucker at the Mississippi Avenue Warehouses, Route 3, East St. Louis, Illinois, and has been so employed since 1934. He is classified 4-A with the local board.</p> <p>The following description of HOLMES was obtained from the files of the Local Board:</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Age</td> <td>47</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birthdate</td> <td>June 28, 1897</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Birthplace</td> <td>Tylertown, Mississippi</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Height</td> <td>5' 10"</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weight</td> <td>165</td> </tr> </table> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>kg</i></p> <p>COPYING DESIGNATION <b>8-1-ABU 20-300</b></p>				Age	47	Birthdate	June 28, 1897	Birthplace	Tylertown, Mississippi	Height	5' 10"	Weight	165
Age	47												
Birthdate	June 28, 1897												
Birthplace	Tylertown, Mississippi												
Height	5' 10"												
Weight	165												
APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>Meane</i>		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES											
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 2 - Chicago 2 - Springfield <i>RECORDED</i> <i>SEARCHED</i> <i>INDEXED</i> <i>SERIALIZED</i> <i>FILED</i>		<b>100-3931-68</b> <b>100-40934-32</b> <i>SEARCHED</i> <i>INDEXED</i> <i>SERIALIZED</i> <i>FILED</i>											

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 3-20-2011 BY [Signature]

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Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black
Complexion	Light brown
Race	Negro
Education	Fifth Grade
Marital Status	Married
Social Security No.	329-10-5172
Residence	1737-A Broadway, East St. Louis, Illinois.

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Colored Detective [redacted] Police Department, advised he has known HOLMES for about [redacted]. He said HOLMES is not very bright and is a chronic drinker. He stated that he had never heard of HOLMES being associated with any radical movement and he stated in any event HOLMES certainly was not smart enough to be a leader in such a movement.

Colored Detective [redacted] Police Department, confirmed the information furnished by [redacted]

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[redacted] He stated in the fall of 1944 he had occasion to be in HOLMES' apartment several times with reference to some redecorating and he stated he observed that for a number of days a woman from Chicago who was supposed to be a relative of the HOLMES was visiting with them. The description he furnished of this visitor is very similar to the description of Subject. He stated this woman had little to say and nothing had come to his attention indicating her visit in East St. Louis was more than a casual visit with relatives.

Colored Detective [redacted] Police Department, advised he was not acquainted with Subject and stated he positively had not heard Subject's name mentioned in connection with any radical activities.

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- REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO OFFICE OR ORIGIN -

100-3931

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CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT [REDACTED] is [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] East St. Louis, Illinois.

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

FILE NO. 100-4092

REPORT MADE AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	DATE WHEN MADE 3/26/45	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 3/19/45	REPORT MADE BY RJS/go
TITLE Mrs. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, was.		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject, who resides at 5341 South Maryland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, continues to serve as National Vice President and Midwest President of the International Workers Order. Continues to be active principally in organizing a section of the IWO among Chicago's 300,000 negroes. During 1944 and the first quarter of 1945 she has been frequently identified with the Communist Party and the Communist Political Association according to informants. She has traveled to Detroit, New York City, Washington, D. C. and in Southern Illinois. She has sponsored a rally by the magazine "New Masses" and has been teaching courses at the Abraham Lincoln School.

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 4/27/02 BY [signature]

-P-

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [redacted]  
dated January 31, 1945 at Chicago, Illinois.

DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

I. IWO and CPA

Subject, who according to confidential informant [redacted] continues to reside at 5341 South Maryland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, and continues to serve as National Vice President and Midwest President of the IWO. During the period covered

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APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>J. J. Johnson</i>		DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau 1 - Springfield (Infor.) 1 - New York (Infor.) 3 - Chicago cc - DR cc - AS cc - ECE	81	39-67 100-402934-33 E 1 21 APR 2 1945 FBI	RECORDED & INDEXED 194 EX-55

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Chicago File #100-4092

by this report her activity has been devoted largely to the establishing of a negro section of the IWO in Chicago among the 300,000 negroes in this city. Confidential informants [ ] and [ ] have reported that she has been very successful in this connection and that as of March 19, 1945 she claimed that the membership of the DuSable Society, which is the negro lodge of the IWO in this city, is now approximately 1,000 members.

Hereafter set out is a chronological account of subject's association with Communist leaders during the year 1944 and first quarter of 1945 as reported by informants of this office. [ ]

[ ] On January 17, 1944, according to Confidential informant [ ] known to the Bureau, she was present at a "Daily Worker" rally in Chicago. [ ]

According to confidential informant [ ] she was, on January 25, 1944, in attendance at a meeting of the Illinois-Indiana Executive Committee of the Communist Party, District #8. [ ]

On February 19, 1944, according to [ ] she was present at a rally held at Forum Hall, 322 East 43rd Street, Chicago, in honor of BEN DAVIS. [ ]

On February 20, 1944, according to [ ] known to the Bureau, she was present at a rally featuring BEN DAVIS held at the Wendell Phillips High School in Chicago. She was observed there by confidential informant [ ] whose observations are known to be very reliable. It should be known that BEN DAVIS is a Communist New York City Councilman. [ ]

During May of 1944 according to [ ] known to the Bureau, she attended the National Convention of the Communist Party in New York at which the Communist Party was dissolved and the Communist Political Association substituted for it. [ ]

X Confidential informant [ ] who has previously reported subject to be a member of the Communist Party, advised that subject was elected to the District Committee of the CPA for District #8 at a meeting of that group held in Chicago at the Midland Hotel June 10, 11, 1944. [ ]

Subject was observed by [ ] at a Communist Political Association picnic on July 4, 1944, and by [ ] at a Branch meeting of the CPA on August 24, 1944. [ ]

On September 24, 1944, according to [ ] and [ ] all known to the Bureau, subject attended and spoke at a Communist Political Association rally held at the Chicago Stadium on the evening of that day. [ ]

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Chicago File #100-4092

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The informants reported that she was in charge of the collection of funds at the meeting. This report is corroborated by news articles appearing in the "Chicago Tribune" for September 25, 1945, and the "Daily Worker" for October 1, 1945.

X Confidential informant [redacted] reported that subject attended a meeting of the District Committee of the Communist Political Association at the Midland Hotel on October 8, 1944.

X Confidential informant [redacted] and [redacted] all known to the Bureau, reported that subject was scheduled to and did speak at a meeting of Branch 4W of the CPA held at 418 East 47th Street in Chicago. Later in the month she traveled in Southern Illinois in behalf of the Communist Political Association political campaign according to [redacted] and [redacted]

[redacted]  
[redacted] advised December 30, 1944 she appeared at a Cultural Meeting of the CPA held at 700 Oakwood Boulevard in Chicago. Confidential informants [redacted] and [redacted] report that subject is frequently scheduled to confer with Communist leaders in this area. The scheduled appointments as made available by these informants are as follows:

8/23/44 - appointment [redacted]  
9/1/44 - 2:00PM - appointment, [redacted]  
9/2/44 - appointment, ALFRED WAGENKNECHT and [redacted]  
9/19/44 - 11:00AM - appointment, [redacted]  
9/23/44 - 2:00 PM - [redacted]  
10/20/44 - 11:00AM - appointment [redacted]  
10/20/44 - 1:30PM - appointment [redacted]  
12/7/44 - 4:00PM - appointment, [redacted] and [redacted]  
1/29/45 - 10:00AM - appointment [redacted]  
2/5/45 - 10:30AM - appointment, [redacted]  
2/15/45 - 2:30PM - appointment, RAY HANSBROUGH

Confidential informant [redacted] reported that on March 19, 1945 subject presided over a meeting of the Council of National Groups of the Midwest Division of the IWO. In the course of this meeting a question was raised as to what attitude leaders of the IWO would take in response to the charge that the IWO is Communist dominated. LOUISE THOMPSON at this meeting took the position that the IWO should not deny that its leadership is Communistic but should declare that its membership is not necessarily Communistic. In this case she cited her own experience recently when certain members of a negro group, who had been requested to join the DuSable Society, Negro Section of the IWO in Chicago, objected because it was Communist dominated. Subject stated that she went before this group and told them that while she, herself, was a well-known Communist, other persons, however, in the DuSable Society were not Communistic.

Chicago File #100-4092

During the year of 1944 the subject traveled to Detroit on August 16, 1944 and on February 16, 1944, according to [redacted]. From October 12, 1944 to October 18th of that year, according to [redacted] she traveled to Washington, D. C. and New York City. While in Washington, D. C. she attended the meeting of the National Council of Negro Women held on October 13, 1944.

*Xenia Day*  
[redacted] reported on April 20, 1944 that subject was named as a sponsor of a "New Masses" rally to be held in Chicago, Illinois.

Confidential informants [redacted] and [redacted] reported that she teaches classes at the Abraham Lincoln School on a regular basis.

Confidential informant [redacted] has advised that she was invited to have Christmas Dinner with ALFRED WAGENKNECHT and [redacted] at the home of [redacted]

According to the "Chicago Defender" for May 6, 1944, she is active in the National Negro Museum Historical Foundation which was created following the BEN DAVIS meeting in Chicago during February 1944.

According to [redacted] subject was active for many years with the Department of Social Relations of the Congressional Society.

In 1932 the subject traveled in Russia and in 1937 stayed in other parts of Europe. According to this informant she also traveled in Mexico.

Subject's picture appears in the "Fraternal Outlook" for December 1944, Column 1, Page 6. In her organizational activity among negroes in Chicago, she has received attention in the "Chicago Defender" for September 30, 1944, Column 2, Page 5; October 7, 1944, Column 5, Page 3; December 23, 1944, Column 2, Page 8 and February 3, 1945, Column 2, Page 5.

## II. FINANCES

*Patterson*  
Confidential informant [redacted] advised that subject maintains an account at the Amalgamated Trust and Savings Bank in Chicago which is in the name of WILLIAM L. or LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON, 5341 South Maryland Avenue. The balance in this account as of March 13, 1945 was \$115.89. There is also in this bank, according to the informant, an account for the International Workers Order, 166 West Jackson Boulevard, Room 1116, upon which the following persons are authorized to draw checks: LOUISE THOMPSON, [redacted]. The balance in this account as of March 13, 1945 was \$465.42. The informant advised that there is no account in this bank in the name of DuSable Society.

- PENDING -

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Chicago File #100-4092

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Will follow subject's activities in the Chicago Field  
Division as made available through confidential informants [redacted]  
and [redacted] and informant [redacted] Midwest  
Division of the Council of National Groups.

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-PENDING-

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

68117

DATE: April 25, 1945

FROM : SAC, Chicago

SUBJECT: MRS. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, with aliases  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
(Bureau File No. 100-39)

*obj 16*

Pursuant to the provisions of Bureau Bulletin No. 59, Second Series 1943, dated November 10, 1943, the above captioned case has been placed in a pending inactive status for a six months period as of the date of the last report, that of Special Agent [redacted] dated March 26, 1945 at Chicago, Illinois.

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100-4092

100-4092-34  
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10/12/00 BY 35435m/jcl

RECORDED

100-407934-34  
100-39-68

*Am*

*C**JH*



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS

SUBJECT Louise Thompson Patterson  
FILE NUMBER 100-440-407934  
SECTION NUMBER 2 (Includes EBF-50)



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS FILE NO. 100-1092

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT

WHILE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS	11/26/45	11/15, 16, 19, 20, 21/45	[Redacted]
TITLE		CHARACTER OF CASE	
MRS. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, was		INTERNAL SECURITY - C b7C	
<p><b>SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:</b></p> <p>EO 12958 pp168</p> <p>SSA 4903 ROD/00 3/21/57 94-C-0-365</p> <p>11/25/50 - 3cc63EN 1-168 11/26/50 - 3cc63EN 1-168 11/26/50 - 3cc63EN 1-168</p> <p>CLASS. &amp; EXT. BY SP/ARM/OMS REASON-FCIM-FH, 1-2-4.2 3 DATE OF REVIEW 11/25/50 COPIES DESTROYED 211 AUG 22 1963</p> <p>DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES</p> <p>100-39-74 100-407934-35 100-45</p>			
APPROVED AND FORWARDED		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT			
5 - Bureau 1 - New York (Info.) 3 - Chicago 380 1-2-4.2 MR:11			

XENTAL

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Chicago File #100-4092

the spring of 1945 which climaxed in a membership of over 2,000 in the fraternal insurance scheme. This organization, which receives substantial publicity in Chicago negro newspapers because of its outward appearance of legitimacy, has been used to disseminate CPA and CP propaganda among the negroes. Subject is reported to be on the executive Board of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee. She is a sponsor of the JAFRC and is an active force in the Chicago branch of the National Council of Negro Women. She is also one of the sponsors of the Jewish Black Book Committee, Chicago. In August 1945 subject taught a course in the Communist dominated Abraham Lincoln School at Madison, Wisconsin. (u)

P\*

REFERENCE: Bureau File #100-39 [redacted]  
Report of Special Agent [redacted]  
dated March 26, 1945 at Chicago, Illinois.

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DETAILS: AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS: b2  
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Address

Confidential Informant [redacted] has advised that the subject continues to reside at 5341 S. Maryland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. She resides at this address according to informant, with her husband WILLIAM LORENZO PATERSON, who is presently Vice-Chairman, District #8, Communist Party. (u)

Occupation

This same informant has advised that the subject functions on a full time basis as President, Midwest Council of National Groups, Midwest Division, IWO, 64 W. Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois, Room 1115-17. (u)

She also works as general director of the DuSable Lodge #751, IWO, 67 E. 35th Street, Chicago, Illinois. (u)

7/1/1945  
FBI - CHICAGO

Chicago File #100-4092

During the past six months the subject's main activity has been in organizing the DuSable Lodge #751 and building up its membership in the negro community in Chicago. It is interesting to note that the various titles applied to officials of the IWO appear to be constantly changing. For example, in a program pamphlet published by the DuSable Lodge on the occasion of the "United Nations on the March" mass meeting at Chicago June 17, 1945 the subject is referred to as a staff member of the DuSable Lodge #751. In the September 1945 issue of "Fraternal Outlook" on page 10, subject is referred to as Vice-President of the IWO and Director of general lodges in Chicago. (u)

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Activities and Position of Subject in Communist Political Association and Communist Party

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised on May 22, 1945 that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON, under the name of LOUISE PATTERSON, 5341 S. Maryland Avenue, Chicago, was a member of the Washington Park Club of the Communist Political Association, her 1945 membership card number in the Communist Political Association being 59641. According to informant, the subject gave her occupation as Insurance Director - Fraternal Insurance. (u)

Inasmuch as the subject was a member of the Washington Park Club of the Communist Political Association, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that she will automatically be registered in the Washington Park Club of the Communist Party during the 1946 registration campaign which is currently going on. It is pointed out that the Washington Park Club, CP, is led by one [redacted]

[redacted] and covers the western section of the Fifth Ward. The subject's address at 5341 S. Maryland Avenue is in the western portion of the Sixth Ward. & (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that on January 11, 1945 LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON spoke at a meeting of the Fourth Ward Club, CPA (now known as the Abe Gray Club, CP). Her talk before this CPA club was on "The Role of the CPA Club". It is pointed out that at that time the Communist Political Association was attempting to convey to members the importance of the CPA club in the various communities. (u)

This same informant advised on February 26, 1945 that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON told him that she was making arrangements for a conference between herself, [redacted] of organization, IWO, and [redacted] (u)

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Chicago File #100-4092

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[redacted] District #8, CPA. [redacted] according to informant, was in Chicago in connection with the program of the "United Nations Tea" sponsored by the DuSable Lodge at the Ida B. Wells Center, 34th and South Parkway, Chicago. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that the subject was one of the lecturers at a special Communist Political Association school held for negroes at the Poro College, 4416 S. Parkway, Chicago between March 5 and March 10, 1945. Other instructors at this negro school included RAY HANSBOROUGH, President, South Side Council, CPA, and [redacted] both prominent CPA leaders. (u)

The "Worker" of April 22, 1945, page 6, stated that Midwest labor leaders and heads of numerous organizations would conduct a rally to help build the "Worker" on May 6, 1945. This rally was to take place in the Crystal Room at the Sherman Hotel at 1 p.m. on May 6. The "Worker" article listed LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON as one of the members of the Sponsors Committee of the conference.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that the subject was scheduled as a speaker at an open air mass meeting on April 28, 1945 at which over 1,000 persons were in attendance. The open air mass meeting was held on the corner of 51st Street and Prairie Avenue, Chicago. [redacted] now [redacted] South Side Council, CP, was one of the organizers and leading speaker at this mass meeting.

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that this meeting was held for the purpose among others to spur interest in the San Francisco United Nations Conference. (u)

A physical surveillance was conducted by Special Agents [redacted] and [redacted] at the Town Room Coffee Shop, Sherman Hotel, on May 15, 1945. The event was a special luncheon being given for PAUL ROBESON, famous negro singer. The following individuals were seen to enter the Coffee Shop between 11:52 a.m. and 12:33 p.m. and to leave between 1:30 and 1:35 p.m.: LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON, MORRIS CHILDS (President District #8 CPA), [redacted] District #8, CPA), RAY HANSBOROUGH (President, South Side Council, CPA), [redacted] South Side Council, CPA), [redacted]

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago File #100-4092

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[redacted] Chicago Chapter, AYD), [redacted]  
[redacted] District #8, CPA), AL WAGENKNECHT (Vice-President, District  
#8, CPA), [redacted] now [redacted] South Side Council,  
[redacted] DueSable Lodge #751, IWO).

Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that the subject attended a meeting of the District Committee of District #8, CPA, on June 10, 1945. This District Committee meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the DUCLOS criticism and the resolution of the National Board, CPA, of June 2, 1945. This informant reported that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON was the only member of the District Committee who appeared to have any doubts as to the advisability of accepting the resolution of the National Board. She expressed generally the idea that the CPA should go slow in attempting any vast reorganization. She indicated, however, that she would go along with the rest of the Committee, if the Committee felt that the resolution should be accepted. Ultimately, according to informant, the subject voted in favor of accepting the resolution of the National Board, CPA, making the adoption of the resolution by the District Committee of District #8, CPA unanimous. f(u)

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This informant also advised that considerable dissatisfaction was expressed at the District Committee meeting on June 10, 1945 with the handling of negro problems by the present negro leadership in the South Side office of the CPA. f(u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] also was advised by LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON that a conference on negro problems was held on June 13, 1945. Those present in addition to herself were [redacted] District #8, CP; MORRIS CHILDS, President, RAY HANSBOROUGH, President South Side Council, WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, then Assistant Director, Abraham Lincoln School, now Vice-Chairman Communist Party, [redacted] now [redacted] and [redacted] South Side Council, CP, and [redacted] now [redacted] [redacted] South Side Council, CP. Subject [redacted] informant [redacted] this meeting generally discussed how the negroes would react to acceptance of the resolution of the National Board by the District Committee. Discussion was centered around the advisability of the Communists taking more positive action on specific negro issues. f(u)

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Chicago File #100-4092

Confidential Informant [ ] stated that he observed the subject present at a meeting of leaders of the South Side Section, Chicago, at the Boulevard Hall, 347 E. 47th Street, Chicago on July 8, 1945. The Chairman of this meeting was [ ] who is now [ ]  
[ ] South Side Council, CPA. X u

This meeting according to informant was a followup of the District Committee Meeting of June 10, 1945. It was called for the purpose of discussing errors made by the CPA during the previous 18 months. The following individuals were among those who spoke at this meeting:

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MORRIS CHILDS, President, District #8, CPA; [ ] District #1, UPWA-CIO; WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, Assistant Director, Abraham Lincoln School; RAY HANSBOROUGH, President South Side Council, CPA. All speakers agreed that the basic theories of MARX and LENIN must be studied more carefully in the future. X u

Confidential Informant [ ] observed the subject present at the District Convention of the Communist Political Association held at the Hamilton Hotel, Chicago, on July 21 and 22, 1945. Q u

Confidential Informant [ ] who was present at this convention also observed the subject present. [ ] reported that the subject was chairman of the second session of the District Convention on July 23, 1945. Q u

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Confidential Informant [ ] reported that on July 21, 1945 the subject was one of the individuals being considered as a delegate to the National Convention of the Communist Political Association to be held in New York on July 27, 28 and 29, 1945. Q u

Confidential Informant [ ] reported that the subject was present at the National Convention of the CPA in New York City on July 27, 28, and 29, 1945 as a visitor. Q u

Confidential Informant [ ] advised that [ ] District #8, CPA, [ ] on August 9, 1945 [ ] LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON had been selected by the Leadership Committee of District #8 as one of the individuals who would be considered for appointment to the new District Board of the Communist Party. This new District Board, according to informant was to be formed at the Second District Convention in Chicago on August 11 and 12, 1945. Q u

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Chicago File #100-4092

Subsequently, information received indicated that the subject was not appointed to the District Board of District #8, CP. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] who attended the District Convention on August 11 and 12, 1945 submitted a written report stating that he observed the subject at the District Convention and witnessed her election to the new District Committee of District #8, CP. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] who also attended the District Convention of August 11 and 12, 1945 submitted a written report substantiating this information. (u)

[redacted] also observed the subject at this District Convention and witnessed her election to the District Committee of the newly organized Communist Party. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] submitted similar information substantiating the report of the above three informants. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] submitted information to the effect that subject had been elected as a member of the South Side Council of the Communist Party. She was elected to this group on August 23, 1945 and informant advised that this organization is composed of approximately 20 individuals who are leading Communists from the eight Communist clubs located in the Second through the Sixth Wards, Chicago. (u)

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Six of the eight clubs have a large negro membership. Most of the members of the South Side Council, CP, are negroes. Informant stated that the subject attended a meeting of the South Side Council held at the Carver Book Store, 4241 S. Michigan Avenue, on September 4, 1945. The Carver Book Store is the headquarters for the Carver Club, CP, one of the eight clubs under the jurisdiction of the South Side Council, CP. The South Side Council, CP, is the governing body for the South Side Section, which covers the Second through the Sixth Wards. (u)

In a written report, Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that he observed the subject present at a "farewell and appreciation ceremony" held September 9, 1945 at the Skyline Athletic Club, 188 N. Randolph, Chicago, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Approximately 75 persons were present. The affair was held as a farewell to MORRIS CHILDS, [redacted]

[redacted] RAY HANSBOROUGH, and [redacted] departing CPA leaders of District #8. (u)

CLIPPER

Chicago File #100-4092

Confidential Informant [redacted] submitted information on October 3, 1945 to the effect that the subject had been unanimously recommended to the Jewish Commission of District #8, CP. [redacted] of District #8, CP, [redacted] informant [redacted] Jewish Commission of District #8 was being organized on a broad basis and efforts were being made to get non-Jews on the Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to generally supervise the activities of the Communist Party among the Jewish people. X u

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON attended a meeting of the Jewish Commission at CP headquarters, 208 N. Wells Street, October 8, 1945. X u

[redacted] ALFRED WAGENKNECHT, Vice-Chairman, District #8, CP, b2  
that the subject had been selected for membership on the Personnel b7C  
Commission of District #8, CP. WAGENKNECHT explained the Personnel b7D  
Commission as being similar to the National Review Commission.  
He said that the National Review Commission is something like the old  
CC - Counter Commission. WAGENKNECHT said that the new National Review  
Commission and the District #8 Personnel Commission would not be as  
drastic as the old CC, which was in existence prior to the Communist  
Political Association. Informant advised that the subject met with this  
commission on October 11, 1945. X u

Confidential Informant [redacted] by [redacted]  
District #8, CP, November 15, 1945 that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON had  
asked for the establishment of a "South Side People's Center". This  
center would be used to weld negro and white solidarity in the labor  
movement. A committee has been selected to work with subject to call  
union representatives to participate in the establishment of such a  
center. Those on the committee are: X u

[redacted] member District Committee, District #8,  
CP, and [redacted] South Side Council, CP.

[redacted] District #8, CP. X u

[redacted] District #1, UPWA-CIO

[redacted] member Sixth Ward Club, CP.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago File #100-4092

The following unions are to be called on to support the South Side People's Center:

United Steel Workers - CIO  
United Packing House Workers of America - CIO  
United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America - CIO  
United Farm Equipment and Metal Workers of America - CIO  
Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers of America - CIO  
International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union - CIO  
United Auto Workers - CIO  
Fur and Leather Workers - CIO  
United Shoe Workers - CIO  
Rubber Workers Union - CIO

Activities of Subject in DuSable Lodge #751, IWO, and Other IWO Groups

As indicated previously in this report a major portion of the subject's activities deal with DuSable Lodge #751, whose main office is located at 67 E. 35th Street, Chicago.

The following publications contain good photographs of the subject and were published in connection with the subject's activities in the IWO:

"Fraternal Outlook" for January 1945, page 4; "Fraternal Outlook", April 1945, pages 4 and 5. The latter photograph shows the induction of the Joe Louis Service Guild into DuSable Lodge #751, IWO. In this publication there is also a photograph showing subject at the United Nations Tea held February 25, 1945 at the Ida B. Wells Center, 38th and Parkway, Chicago. ROCKWELL KENT, National President, IWO, is photographed with subject and Dr. LUTHER PECK, President, DuSable Lodge #751.

"Chicago Defender", March 3, 1945, page 7, column 2. This publication does not contain a photograph of the subject but mentions her in connection with the United Nations Tea of February 25, 1945.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago File #100-4092

"Pittsburgh Courier", March 3, 1945 contains a photograph of the subject taken with LUTHER PECK, President of DuSable Lodge #751, SAM MILGROM, General Director, IWO, and MAX BEDAUGHT, General Secretary, IWO, at the United Nations Tea.

"United Nations on the March", program pamphlet issued on the occasion of a United Nations on the March mass meeting, June 17, 1945. This program pamphlet carries a photograph of the subject, listing her as National Vice-President, IWO. A copy of this "United Nations on the March" pamphlet is being incorporated in instant file.

The following publications, leaflets and reports show the subject's work in connection with the IWO:

"The Guide" - for general lodges, International Workers Order #2, for May 1945, contains an article concerning the record set by Chicago negro enrollment in the IWO. The subject is mentioned in this article.

Written report of Confidential Informant [ ] submitted concerning the United Nations Tea held on February 25, 1945. This report lists the subject as a speaker at this meeting. (u)

Written report of Confidential Informant [ ] of a regular meeting of DuSable Lodge #751 on April 13, 1945 at the South Side Community Arts Center, 3138 S. Michigan Avenue. Subject was present at this meeting and announced that the DuSable Lodge would form a special leadership class which would be held at the University of Wisconsin in the summer of 1945. The class would be under the sponsorship of the Abraham Lincoln School. (u)

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The above material can be found in connection with reports concerning the DuSable Lodge #751, IWO. (u)

Confidential Informant [ ] advised on February 24, 1945 that the subject made arrangements with [ ] South Side Council, CPA, to supply books and literature to be displayed at the United Nations Tea at the Ida B. Wells Center on February 2, 1945. (u)

The "Daily Worker" for April 4, 1945, page 5, contains an article to the effect that SAM PATTERSON, national negro organizer, IWO, had announced that the IWO had obtained 5000 negro members as of December 31, 1944.

Chicago File #100-4092

The article stated that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON also gave reports concerning membership in Chicago at a semiannual general council session of the IWO.

Confidential Informant [redacted] has advised that DuSable Lodge #751 has been used to disseminate CPA and CP propaganda among the negroes in Chicago. He stated that he observed during April at meetings of the lodge that considerable emphasis was placed on focusing attention on the United Nations Conference in San Francisco. Cx (u)

Recently this informant has advised that the lodge is supporting passage of such bills as the Murray-Dingle Bill and has sent a delegate to Washington to lobby in connection with it.

On April 7, 1945 [redacted] advised that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON was making arrangements for [redacted] DuSable Lodge, to appear in Springfield, Illinois to speak before a special committee of the State Legislature on the pending FEPC bill. C

According to [redacted] during July 1945 the DuSable lodge cooperated with the National Negro Congress, a reported CP front group, in circulating petitions urging the impeachment of Senator T. G. BILBO. C

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Confidential Informant [redacted] submitted a written report concerning a business meeting of the DuSable lodge held on June 8, at 3138 S. Michigan Avenue. At this meeting it was determined to give all-out support to the NAACP's drive to raise \$50,000 to fight restrictive covenants. C

A physical surveillance of Dr. MAX YERGAN, Director, Council on African Affairs, on April 22, 1945 revealed that the subject attended a mass meeting at which YERGAN spoke. This meeting was sponsored by the Chicago and Northern District Federation of Colored Women and was held at the Metropolitan Community Church. At the conclusion of the meeting LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON drove YERGAN to her home at 5341 S. Maryland Avenue and shortly thereafter took him to the Sherman Hotel, Chicago. This surveillance was conducted by reporting Agent and Special Agent [redacted]

The subject was reported present at the following affairs sponsored by the DuSable Lodge: C (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Chicago File #100-4092

[redacted] reported that a special reception for PAUL ROBESON was held on the morning of May 20, 1945 at the Canaan Baptist Church, 20 E. 45th Street, Chicago. This meeting was followed by a mass meeting at the Corpus Christi Church, 49 and South Parkway at which PAUL ROBESON appeared. This meeting was sponsored by the Council on African Affairs and the subject was a sponsor of this meeting. (u)

The subject was present at the United Nations on the March mass meeting held at the DuSable High School June 17, 1945. The purpose of this meeting was to welcome and initiate new members into the DuSable Lodge. As of that date the DuSable Lodge had obtained a membership of over 2,000 in its fraternal insurance scheme.

The "Pittsburgh Courier" of June 30, 1945 contains an article concerning the June 17, 1945 meeting and has a photograph of the subject and ISHMAEL P. FLORY as speaking on the program.

The "Worker" of July 1, 1945, page 6, column 4 carried a story of the DuSable meeting on June 17, 1944. The subject was mentioned in this article.

A leaflet submitted in connection with the investigation of DuSable Lodge #751 states that a "United for Employment" cultural and educational meeting will be held under the auspices of the Englewood Club, TWO, 6028 S. May Street, Chicago, July 15, 1945. The subject was listed as a speaker at this affair.

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Confidential Informant [redacted] reported on September 25, 1945 that the subject spearheading a drive to raise \$40,000 for the DuSable Lodge in order that they might purchase a cultural center for the lodge. Plans are for the lodge to hold a bazaar at Forum Hall, 43rd and California Avenue, on December 12, 1945. This informant reported that in obtaining things to sell at this bazaar subject contacted HERMAN BUSH of the Russian Relief Committee and [redacted] of the Chicago Council of American-Soviet Friendship, who agreed to donate commodities for sale. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] reported on October 8, 1945 that the subject made arrangements for [redacted] of DuSable Lodge, to be present at a delegation meeting at the mayor's office on October 9, 1945 in connection with a protest of the handling of the Chicago racial school strike by the Chicago School Board. (u)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago File #100-4092

Informant stated that the subject was supporting the efforts of the United Citizens Committee, a reported Communist front group, organized by [redacted] South Side Council, CP, to protest regarding the handling of the Chicago racial school strike. (u)

The "Fraternal Outlook" for October 1945, page 8, contains a large photograph of subject with PAUL ROBESON and SAM MILGROM, taken at the United Nations on the March meeting on June 17, 1945.

[redacted] reported on October 19, 1945 that the subject was applying to [redacted] Department, Abraham Lincoln School to begin a class for members of the DuSable Lodge on November 5, 1945. The extension class, which she planned to hold at the Ida B. Wells Center, would be entitled "Science and Society". This same informant reported that on October 29, 1945 the subject spoke before a meeting of the United Shoe Workers-CIO. She was invited to speak by [redacted] of this union. The topic of her talk was "Class Solidarity and Russia's Solution to the Race Problem". [redacted] particularly wanted the subject to tell of her trip to the Soviet Union thirteen years ago. (u)

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b7C

Activities of the Subject in Reported Communist Front Groups and Other Organizations

[redacted] supplied a leaflet of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee which lists subject as Midwest campaign sponsor of the JAFRC. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] supplied a leaflet advertising a meeting of the Chicago Council of African Affairs at the Corpus Christi Church on May 20, 1945. This leaflet lists the subject as a sponsor of this meeting.

[redacted] advised that the subject contributed \$20.00 to the National Negro Congress to assist the Congress in paying off a debt to the Bureau of Internal Revenue. (u)

The "Sentinel" for May 17, 1945, page 19, contains a statement to the effect that the subject is a sponsor of the Jewish Black Book Committee. The article states that this committee is the first expression of world Jewish opinion on Nazi atrocities. It will attempt to formulate evidence against Nazis who have harmed the Jewish people.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago File #100-4092

Confidential Informant [redacted] reported on June 9, 1945 that the subject has become a member of the Mayor's Race Relations Commission. No information has been received that this organization is a Communist Front organization. C(u)

The CIO "Champion", publication of the United Packing House Workers of America, on September 12, 1945, page 7, column 2, contains an article stating that the subject taught a course at the Abraham Lincoln Summer School at Madison, Wisconsin on the subject "The Negro in America".

[redacted] District #8, CP, told Confidential Informant [redacted] on September 25, 1945 that there were not enough left wing people on the board of directors of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee. He advised informant that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON would like to be on the board of directors. C(u)

Subsequent information submitted by [redacted] indicated that the subject had been invited to recent meetings of the executive board of the Chicago Civil Liberties Committee. This organization is reportedly dominated by Communists. C(u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] advised that the subject attended a meeting of the National Council of Negro Women at 8:00 p.m. on October 1, 1945. This organization is headed nationally by MARY MC LEON BETHUNE. It is not a reported Communist front organization. However, the subject has been active in the Chicago branch and arranged a program for the Chicago group October 22, 1945 at which [redacted] a reported Communist, and union worker in the United Electrical and Radio Workers of America, CIO, was one of the principal speakers. The meeting was on the topics of reconversion and the employment of negro women. [redacted] is [redacted] of the local chapter of the National Council. C(u)

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Confidential Informant [redacted] observed the subject present at a meeting at the home of [redacted] Chicago on November 5, 1945. This meeting was called for all sponsors of the mass meeting of the Independent Citizens Committee of Oakland-Kenwood-Hyde Park, Illinois at the Shakespeare School October 9, 1945. In connection with this mass meeting a leaflet was published containing a list of the sponsors of the meeting. The subject's name C(u)

Chicago File #100-4092

was included on this list. The mass meeting was called for the purpose of protesting the restrictive covenants program of the Oakland-Kenwood Property Owners Association. C

The leaflet contains statements to the effect that sinister un-American forces were at work in the Oakland-Kenwood Property Owners Association in the Oakland-Kenwood area. Informant [redacted] stated that the Oakland-Kenwood Property Owners Association was suing the sponsors of the Independent Citizens Committee mass meeting of October 9, 1945 for libel. According to [redacted] subject was present at the meeting at the [redacted] home to discuss what action should be taken in connection with this suit. C

Criminal Record; and Description

Reference is made to report of Special Agent [redacted] dated October 22, 1943 which states that the Chicago Police Department has a record of one LOUISE THOMPSON arrested in a disorderly house in Chicago.

Special Employee [redacted] checked the records of the Bureau of Information and Statistics on November 19, 1945 to obtain a photograph and a police department number for this individual; with negative results.

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The LOUISE THOMPSON above mentioned was arrested in Chicago on October 2, 1934. No information has been obtained up to the present time indicating she is identical with the subject.

No criminal record for the subject under her true name or aliases has been found in the Chicago Police Department.

A full and complete description of the subject has been obtained and is set forth as follows:

Name	Mrs. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, with aliases
Address	5341 S. Maryland Avenue, Chicago
Height	5' 4"
Weight	130
Date of Birth	September 9, 1901

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago File #100-4092

Place of birth Chicago, Illinois  
Color Negro; light brown  
Skin Very smooth  
Facial features Even, with very small negroid characteristics.  
Build Plump  
Teeth Large; in front tending to buck teeth.  
Hair Upswept style, curly and well-groomed, slightly graying.  
Voice Clear and distinct; cultured diction.  
Peculiarities Unusually long arms.  
General appearance - good; generally well-dressed.  
Education B.S. degree, University of California, Berkeley, California, May 16, 1923.  
Business address 64 W. Randolph Street, Room 1115-17; and 67 E. 35th Street, Chicago, Illinois  
Identification data - Passport #468361 issued to subject on 8-5-37 for trip to Europe.

P E N D I N G

-16-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago File #100-4092

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE CHICAGO FIELD DIVISION

At Chicago, Illinois

Will contact [ ] for information concerning subject's activities in connection with DuSable Lodge #751. Q(4)

Will contact [ ] for specific reports of subject's attendance at business meetings of DuSable Lodge #751. Q(4)

Will make arrangements for [ ] to secure an admission from the subject to him that she is a member of the District Committee of the Communist Party. Q(4)

Will maintain contact with [ ] for any information of subject's appearance at Communist meetings among the negroes on Chicago's South Side. Q(4)

Will continue to collect through [ ] and [ ] leaflets and other documentary material showing the subject's membership in the Communist Party. Q(4)

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b7C  
b7D

P E N D I N G

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Chicago File #100-4092

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Confidential Informant

is [redacted]

Confidential Informant

is [redacted]

Confidential Informant

is [redacted]

Confidential Informant

is [redacted]

Confidential Informant

represents [redacted] Confidential Informants:

Confidential Informant

is [redacted]

Confidential Informant

is [redacted]

Confidential Informant

is a trash cover on [redacted]

Chicago, placed

with [redacted]

[redacted] is being used to designate [redacted] in order to better protect a technical surveillance.

[redacted] is being used to designate [redacted] in order to better protect the identity of this informant, who supplies photographs of membership cards of members in the Communist Party of District #8, CP.

[redacted] is being used to designate [redacted] who is a live informant and who submits numerous reports on a large number of meetings.

[redacted] and [redacted] are being used to designate [redacted] and [redacted] in order to better protect the identity of microphone surveillances.

Chicago File #100-4092

[redacted] is being used to designate [redacted] and  
[redacted] in order to better protect the identity of microphone and  
technical surveillances of the New York Field Division. (S)

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b7D

COPY FA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

100-401934-✓ 6-29-43  
EGF:MLC:

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

SAC, CHICAGO

Transmit the following message to:

TO BE CODED

TECHNICAL SURVEILLANCE AUTHORIZED TO COVER WILLIAM L. AND  
LOUISE T. PATTERSON, SIX ZERO ONE EAST THIRTY SIXTH STREET,  
CHICAGO, APARTMENT THREE ZERO EIGHT.

HOOVER

HEREIN CLASSIFIED BY 2014-01-14  
DATE 9/28/00 BY 2014-01-14

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
6-29-43

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-39-24

63 MAY 23 1955

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

June 26, 1943 PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

RE: WILLIAM L. PATTERSON  
LOUISE T. PATTERSON

In connection with the investigation of the Communist Party, U.S.A. by this Bureau, it is deemed advisable that a technical surveillance be established on the residence of the above-named individuals, 601 East 36th Street, Chicago, Illinois, Apartment 308, telephone Drexel 7768.

39445 REW/MLC  
DEC 21 1951

William L. Patterson, Negro, and his wife, Louise Patterson, have been active in connection with Communist Party activities throughout the country for a number of years. Patterson has long been a leader of the Communist Party in the Chicago area. He is reportedly a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party. He is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Illinois-Indiana District Bureau. He is the Vice-President of the International Labor Defense in the Chicago area. He was a member of the Sacco-Vanzetti National League and was extremely active in connection with the defense of the Scottsboro case. He is a Director of the National Negro Congress and a sponsor of the Abraham Lincoln Rehabilitation Fund, Inc. Patterson was Vice-President of the League for Struggle for Negro Rights in 1935. He was on the Mooney Council for Action and a member of the National Committee of the Friends of the Soviet Union. In 1938 he was a member of the Reorganizing Committee of the American League for Peace and Democracy. He was a delegate to the National Convention of the Communist Party in New York City in 1940. Until recent date he was an instructor and director of the Chicago Workers School, which is definitely a Communist sponsored school. He was the Communist Party candidate for the Mayor of New York City in 1933, and in 1940 he was a Communist Party candidate for the United States Congress. In 1942 he was carried on the Communist Party nominating petition as a candidate for Superintendent of Public Institutions in the State of Illinois. At the present time Patterson is an Assistant Director of the Abraham Lincoln School, a trade union group which is presently active in Chicago, Illinois. Information received to date tends to reflect that this school is also a Communist sponsored institution.

44-389-241

IN GENE PATERSON

Patterson has always been interested in the Negro situation in and around Chicago, particularly in so far as the Communist infiltration thereof is concerned. It is known from other technical sources that he is still interested in these matters and that he formulates considerable Party policy in so far as the same is concerned.

100-407934- ✓  
NOT RECORDED

57

DEC 12 1953

- 2 -

Louise Patterson is also known to be prominent in connection with Communist Party activities in and around Chicago. She, too, has been reported to be a member of the National Committee of the Party. She is also a member of the District Committee of the Communist Party for District No. 8. She is presently President of the Midwest District of the International Workers Order a recognized Communist Party organization. She has been extremely active in connection with such movements and organizations as the American Peace Mobilization, the Committee for peoples Rights, the Committee for Defense of Political Prisoners, the Illinois peoples Conference for Legislative Action, the International Labor Defense, the Midwestern Federation for Constitutional Liberties, the League for Struggle for Negro Rights and was active in connection with the Scottsboro defense. She was at one time an Instructor in the Chicago Workers School, which as stated above, was a Communist sponsored school. She like her husband is also extremely interested and active in connection with Negro activities in the Chicago area.

Technical coverage of the residence of the above individuals will most likely make available considerable information of an enlightening nature, especially in so far as Communist activities among the Negroes is concerned. However, it is also felt that this coverage will furnish considerable information of a political nature concerning Party activities in the Chicago area.

I recommend that this surveillance be authorized.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

COPY FA

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JKM:BK  
Call: 3:50 P.M.  
Transcribed 4:30 P. M.

July 1, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD  
Re MAS WILLIAM L. PATTERSON  
LOUISE T. PATTERSON  
Internal Security - C

While calling from Chicago on another matter, SAC Drayton advised that authority for a technical surveillance on the captioned individuals had been granted and that they have since moved. Their present address is 5341 Maryland Avenue, telephone Midway 4641.

Respectfully,

b7C

J. K. Mumford

cc - [redacted]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 12/21/05 BY SPW/BS/MS/

SE

57

100-407934-✓  
NOT RECORDED  
DEC 1 1953

ORIGINAL FILED IN 100-39-25

JAS:LD  
Chicago File 100-4092  
Bureau File 100-59

Re: MRS. WM. L. PATTERSON, wa;  
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

INSPECTOR [redacted]

It is noted that the above individual is regarded as one of the leading figures in Communist activity in the Chicago area and this case is considered one of the outstanding cases of this type in this office. While it appears to have received consistent investigative attention, references are made to the fact that one LOUISE THOMPSON was in custody of the Chicago Police Department, having been arrested in a disorderly house. The information set forth in the last portion of the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 11/26/45, appears to indicate this person is probably not identical with subject. It is believed this matter should be thoroughly checked out in order to definitely determine if these two persons are the same.

b7C

It is also suggested in this connection that every effort be made to determine whether or not the subject of this case has a criminal record. It may be well to submit a communication to the Bureau requesting a check of the indices of the Identification Division in an effort to locate a criminal record for subject.

It is also noted a copy of the report of SA [redacted] dated 11/26/45 at Chicago, Ill., was furnished to the New York office ✓ for information. No explanatory paragraph is included on the lead page of the report.

SAC McSWAIN:

The Bureau will be requested to locate a criminal record on the subject and attention will be given to reports submitted for information in order to see that the lead page explains the reason for the submission of such reports.

Inspection Report  
Chicago Field Office  
Inspector [redacted]  
December 17, 1945

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 9/25/08 BY 2263EN-[initials]

SA

100-407934-36  
100-39-76

February 18, 1946

100-407934-37

Bureau File #100-39-*18*

EX-78 SAC, Chicago

Re: Mrs. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, was.  
 Mrs. Louise Alone Patterson,  
 Mrs. Louise Alone Thurman, Mrs.  
 Louise Alone Thompson, nee  
 Louise Alone Tolls  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C  
 (100-4092)

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication  
 dated February 1, 1946 regarding the following:

Mrs. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 7/29/00 BY 3843E/wjt/jw

In reply thereto, please be advised that from  
 the information furnished it has not been possible to  
 locate any record in the fingerprint files of the Federal  
 Bureau of Investigation.

Very truly yours,

*J. E. Hoover*

John Edgar Hoover  
 Director

9 FEB 1946 11

SJT/15-241

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

FROM : SAC, Chicago

SUBJECT: Mrs. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, was.  
 Mrs. Louise Alone Patterson,  
 Mrs. Louise Alone Thurman, Mrs.  
 Louise Alone Thompson, nee  
 Louise Alone Tools  
 INTERNAL SECURITY - C

DATE: February 1, 1946

2-14 sq

The above individual is National Vice President of the International Workers Order and President of the Midwest Division of the International Workers Order. She is reported to be a member of the District Committee of District 8, Communist Party. Her activities in the Communist field have been wide. She has resided in New York and San Francisco, as well as Chicago. Her description is as follows:

Name:	Mrs. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, with aliases
Address:	5341 S. Maryland Avenue, Chicago
Height:	5' 4"
Weight:	135 lbs.
Date of birth:	9-9-01
Place of birth:	Chicago, Illinois
Color:	Medium brown
Race:	Negro
Skin:	Very smooth
Facial features:	Even, regular features with traceable negroid characteristics
Build:	Plump
Teeth:	Large in front, tend to give the appearance of buck teeth
Hair:	Up-sweep style, curly and well groomed, slightly graying
Voice:	Clear and distinct with cultured diction
General appearance:	Good, well dressed
Education:	B.S. degree, University of California, Berkeley, California, 5-16-23
Business:	64 W. Randolph, Room 1115-17, and 6200 S. Cottage Grove Avenue, Chicago
Passport Identification:	Passport No. 468361 issued to subject on 8-5-37 for trip to Europe and Russia. <i>100-39-78</i>

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 2/28/00 BY 3163574/JLJ/ek

The records of the Chicago Police Department reflect the arrest of one LOUISE THOMPSON on October 2, 1934, as a patron of a disorderly house. She was

INDEXED  
EX-49

COPIES DESTROYED  
211 AUG 22 1963

RECEIVED  
FEB 1 1946  
RECEIVED  
FEB 1 1946  
RECEIVED  
FEB 1 1946

Director, FBI

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arrested on the complaint of one [redacted] and was discharged by Judge SCHEFFER on October 3, 1934. The general description of this individual fits that of the above subject; however, no conclusive determination that they are identical can be made. No Chicago Police Department number or set of fingerprints for this LOUISE THOMISON are reported to be in existence.

The above information is being set forth for use of the Identification Division in attempting to ascertain whether the Bureau has a criminal record for the subject. It is requested that the Chicago Office be advised whether or not there is any criminal record for the subject in the files of the Identification Division of the Bureau.

GPB:bjh  
100-4092

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1  
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

FILE NO. 100-4092

REPORT MADE AT	DATE WHEN MADE	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE	REPORT MADE BY
Chicago, Illinois	6/27/46	6/13, 14, 17-19/46	[Redacted] JFG:LGS
TITLE		CHARACTER OF CASE	
MRS. WILLIAM L. PATTERSON, with aliases		INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS**

Subject resides at 5341 South Maryland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. Continues activities as national vice president of International Workers Order, president of Midwest Council, National Groups, Midwest Division, IWO, and executive secretary of DuSable Lodge No. 751, IWO, Chicago, Illinois. Subject also continues Communist activities in District 8, Communist Party, Chicago. Active in reported Communist front groups. Also in close contact with officials of South Side Section, CP, working among Chicago Negroes. Was one of three main speakers at May Day Rally of CP. Her name appeared on program issued by CP at May Day Rally. Subject sponsored and assisted in preparing a ten week lecture course, "Negroes Fight for Freedom," all lectures by well known reported Communists or fellow travelers. (u)

DECLASSIFIED BY 29/6/53 EJW/4646  
ON 9/29/00

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT  
WHERE SHOWN OTHERWISE.

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11/25/80  
CLIPS. & EXT. BY SP4 JRMLams  
REASON-FCIM II. 1-2.4.2 2  
DATE OF REVIEW 11/25/90

34-371

REFERENCE:

Bureau File No. 100-39. [Redacted]

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Report of Special Agent [Redacted] dated November 26, 1945, at Chicago, Illinois.

21 AUG 22 1963

DETAILS:

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

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100-407934-38	
100-39-82	
SEARCHED & INDEXED 357	
SERIALIZED 62	
FILED 62	

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RESIDENCE

X Confidential Informant [ ] reported that subject continues to reside at 5341 South Maryland Avenue, Chicago, Illinois. According to the informant, she continues to live with her husband, WILLIAM LORENZO PATTERSON, vice chairman, District 8, Communist Party, and chairman of the Negro Commission of the Communist Party. (u)

OCCUPATION

Confidential Informant [ ] states that the subject is president of the Midwest Council, National Groups, Midwest Division, International Workers Order, with offices located at 64 West Randolph. (u)

X Confidential Informant [ ] advised that subject's title with DuSable Lodge No. 751, International Workers Order, is now executive secretary. She was formerly listed on the stationery of the organization as general director. However, the change in title does not affect her authority, as she is still the main directing force behind the lodge.

COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES

X Confidential Informants [ ] and [ ] all report that the subject continues her general Communist activities in District 8, Communist Party, Chicago, Illinois. Informants state that the subject remains in close contact with officials of the South Side Section Council who work among Negroes in Chicago. Subject, according to informants, was considered very reliable and trustworthy and may be called upon as a speaker at functions sponsored by Communist Party District 8. (u)

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On September 4, 1945, Confidential Informant [ ] meeting of the South Side Section Council, Communist Party. At this meeting eighteen names were selected as members of the South Side Council and read. Informant stated that subject's name was among those read. (u)

On May 1, 1946, Lieutenant [ ] Chicago Police Department, Industrial Detail, furnished a report of the May Day Rally held at the Ashland Auditorium, 1610 West Van Buren, Chicago, Illinois, and this report stated that LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON praised Russia. She also stated that World War No. III is now being urged to crush Russia, China, and the Philippines. She urged everyone present to contribute at least one day's pay to the Communist Party. After her talk, pledge cards were passed out to persons attending the May Day Rally at the Auditorium.

Confidential Informant [redacted] also attended the May Day Rally and stated that the subject appealed to all comrads to help raise funds to carry on the work of the Communist Party. In her speech she advocated Socialism as the only means to build peace and prosperity. According to the informant, the estimated collection was \$2,195 after the pledge cards and collection were taken up. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] furnished a printed program of the May Day Rally. Three speakers were listed: SAM HAMMERSMARK, reported old-time Communist of long standing; GIL GREEN, chairman of District 8, Communist Party; and LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON. The following also appeared on the same program: "I would like to join the Communist Party"; "I would like more information about the Communist Party." Following both statements appeared blank spaces for the name and address so that portion of the program could be sent to Communist Party Headquarters, 208 North Wells Street, Room 201. On the reverse side of the program appeared the words of the "Star Spangled Banner" and the "Internationale." This program is being preserved for future evidentiary purposes.

ACTIVITIES AMONG LABOR

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On November 14, 1945, the following article appeared in the "Chicago Sun," morning daily newspaper:

"William Noyer, International Federation of Technical Engineers and Draftsmen (AFL); Casper Robbins, New Council of American Business; and Mrs. Louise Thompson Patterson, National Council of Negro Women will participate in a symposium 'Jobs for You and You and You - Can They be Guaranteed?' will be held at 8 P.M., November 15 at 100 North LaSalle Street."

On November 14, 1945, Confidential Informant [redacted] from [redacted] reported Communist trade unionist, that the subject attended a trade union Commission meeting at Communist Party Headquarters, 205 North Wells Street. (u)

On January 8, 1946, Confidential Informant [redacted] meeting of eight Negro leading Communists at the Parkway Community House. The purpose of the meeting was to set up a South Side Citizens Committee to aid the Packinghouse strikers. According to the informant, LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON took an active part in the meeting and was subsequently elected to serve on the committee. (u)

Confidential Informant [redacted] reported that the subject in the past several months had been in contact with [redacted] Negro and reported Communist trade (u)

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unionist active in the United Packinghouse Workers of America - CIO. According to the informant, [ ] and the subject were working on an idea to aid the UPWA and also to recruit new members to the DuSable Lodge No. 751, International Workers Order. (u)

ACTIVITIES AMONG REPORTED COMMUNIST FRONT OR COMMUNIST DOMINATED ORGANIZATIONS

On December 4, 1945, Confidential Informant [ ] learned that [ ] of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, reported Communist front group, wanted LOUISE THOMPSON PATTERSON to give a speech for a JAFRC dinner to be held December 8, 1945. The informant learned that the subject was unable to accept but recommended one [ ] (u)

On February 4, 1946, Confidential Informant [ ] advised that [ ] associated with Committee for Spanish Freedom, a reported Communist front organization, was given permission by the subject to use the DuSable Lodge No. 751, IWO, name as a sponsor for the MARCANTONIO Dinner to be held March 29, 1946, at Orchestra Hall, Chicago. (u)

On February 23, 1946, Confidential Informant [ ] learned from [ ] of the South Side Council, Communist Party, that subject was invited to attend a Russian War Relief dinner to be held on February 23, 1946. According to the informant the subject was to sit at the speakers' table with Senator CLAUDE PEPPER. She was to represent the International Workers Order and was the only Negro woman at the speakers' table. (u)

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On February 27, 1946, Confidential Informant [ ] learned that the subject was to speak at a meeting held on February 28 with HOWARD WILLIAMS of the Independent Voters of Illinois. The meeting was held at 84 East Randolph Street, Chicago, Illinois. The subject discussed at the meeting was "Ballot Box Casts its Shadow." The subject's part was to deal with women's part in politics. (u)

On March 7, 1946, Confidential Informant [ ] learned that [ ] of the JAFRC had recruited the subject to speak at a mass meeting to be held on March 29, 1946, sponsored by the JAFRC. The subject was listed as national vice president of the International Workers Order and president of the Chicago Council of the International Workers Order. [ ] radio commentator and reported Communist, spoke on the same program with the subject. (u)

On March 21, 1946, Confidential Informant [ ] learned that [ ] on the staff of the "Chicago Star", a reported Communist publication to be issued in Chicago, complained to the subject that the IWO was not giving (u)

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